

Statistical Report for 1999-2000 School Year

Program Description

Community Resources for Families is a collaborative, school-based program between the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare (IDHW) and individual school districts throughout the State of Idaho. This partnership began in 1993 as a way of supporting the physical and emotional safety needs of children in the Boise School District. In 1998 the program was expanded to include 90 school districts throughout the state.

IDHW provides local school districts with program coordination and funding to hire Community Resource Workers (CRW), who are placed in elementary schools where they receive referrals from principals, counselors and teachers. Since children are in the school environment for extended periods of time, school personnel are in a good position to identify family risk issues. Referral reasons include unmet basic needs such as lack of food, clothing, or shelter. These family stressors often lead to problems in the child(ren)'s attendance, behavior, and learning readiness. The CRW's are trained professionals who work closely with families to resolve issues that threaten the safety or learning readiness of children including helping families connect with community resources. During the 1999-2000 school year, 5,918 referrals were made to the Community Resources for Families program.

The goals of the program are:

- Strengthening families to prevent child abuse and neglect;
- Increasing the readiness to learn of children;
- Increasing the self-reliance of families through utilization of community resources.

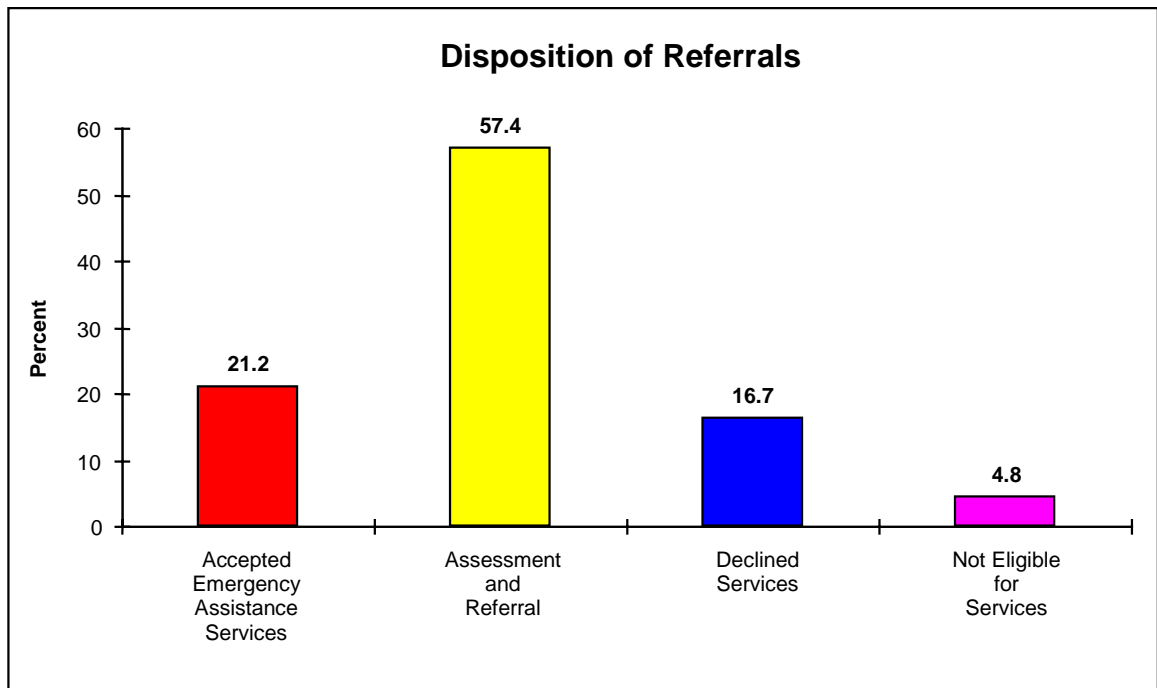
The Community Resources for Families Program provides two levels of services, **Emergency Assistance Services** and **Assessment and Referral Services**. Family participation is voluntary. All families who choose to participate in the program receive up to 30 days of home-based supportive services (Assessment and Referral). Within this 30-day period, some families may require more comprehensive planning and services. These families may be eligible for Emergency Assistance Services which allows the CRW to provide case management for up to an additional 90 days, as well as flexible funding to meet emergency needs.

Program Referrals

During the 1999-2000 school year, 5,918 referrals were made to the Community Resources for Families Program.

Of these referrals, 1,246 referrals were provided with Emergency Assistance and 3,382 received Assessment and Referral Services. The other 1,263 referrals were families who refused services or were not eligible for services.

During the 1999-2000 School Year, the program impacted the lives of over 12,000 children from almost 5,000 families.



Declining Services - As shown above, 16.7 percent of all cases declined services. Services are declined for several major reasons:

- 3.2 % of declined services resulted from the family not agreeing that a service need existed;
- 3.4% of declined services resulted from the family not wanting outside help;
- 3.2 % of declined service resulted from the family moving to a new area or being without an address.

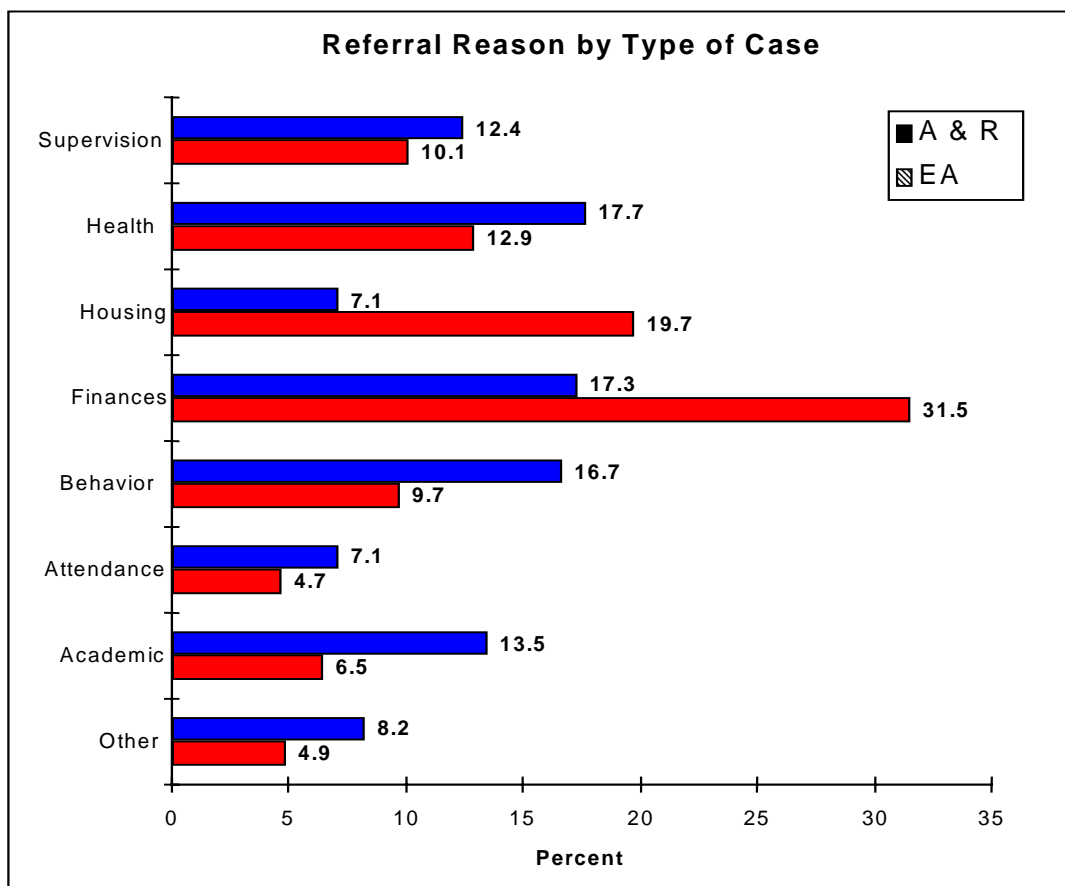
Not Eligible - In order to receive Emergency Assistance Services, a family must meet certain criteria:

- the family must have an emergency condition which the family is unable to meet;
- the emergency condition must not exist because the parents failed to cooperate with TAFI requirements;
- the family or a family member must be a legal resident of the United States.

Referral Reasons

The reasons for referral to the Emergency Assistance component of the Community Resources for Family program are often different than for the Assessment and Referral component. Those families who participated in the Emergency Assistance program were more likely to have been referred for financial hardship and housing, while families provided Assessment and Referral services were more likely to have referrals for school issues, such as behavior, attendance or academic learning, for supervision issues, and health and physical concerns.

Most families had more than one reason for referral. In addition, different needs often surfaced when the CRW started working with the family in the home. The chart below shows the referral reasons for Assessment and Referral families and for families receiving Emergency Assistance for 1999-2000:

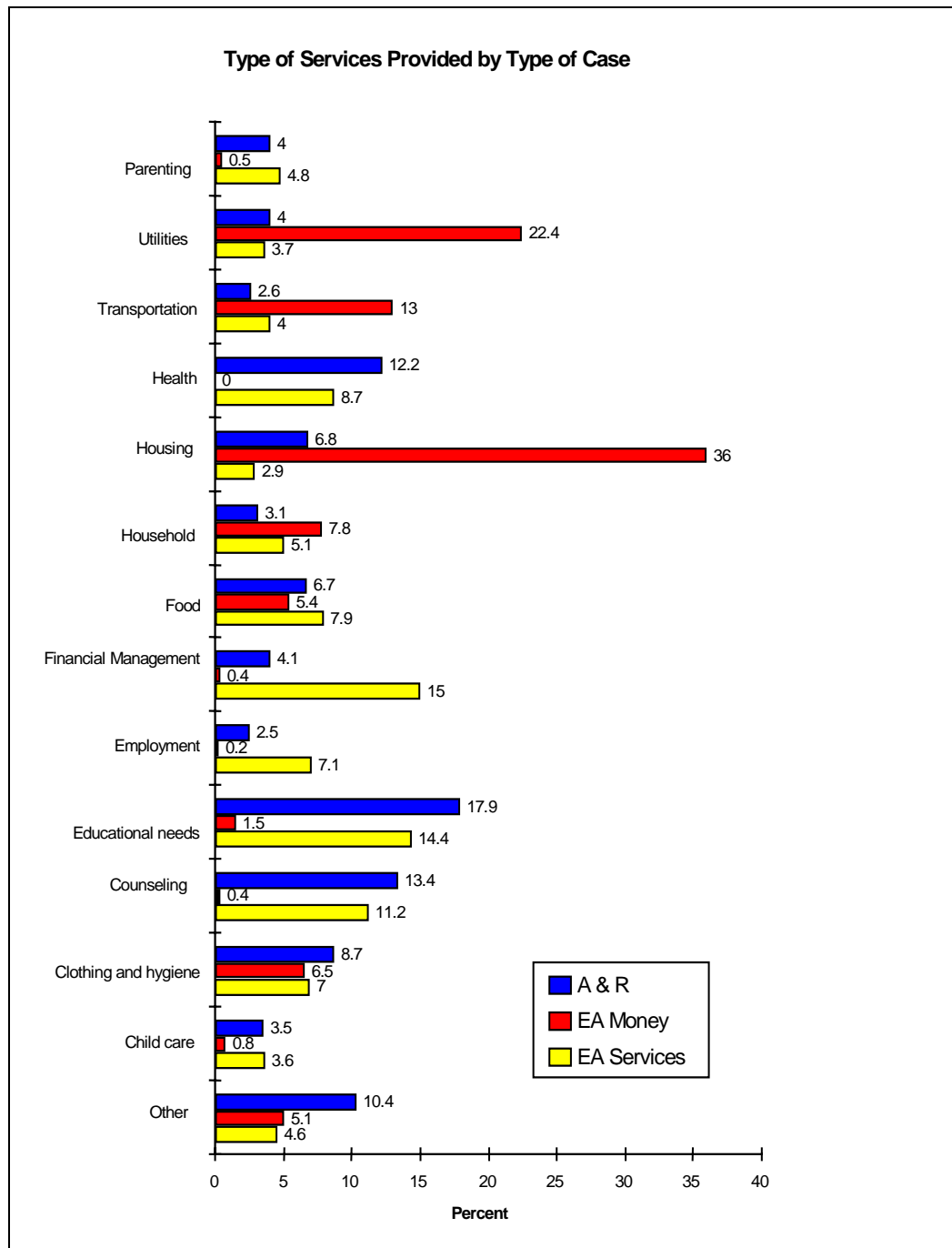


Services

Fifty-six percent of the families served received Assessment and Referral services and 44% percent of the families received Emergency Assistance Services. Within the Emergency Assistance category, 28% received Emergency Assistance case management services only, and 16% received Emergency Assistance case management along with the use of flexible funds to address emergency needs. The services most frequently provided to referred families were:

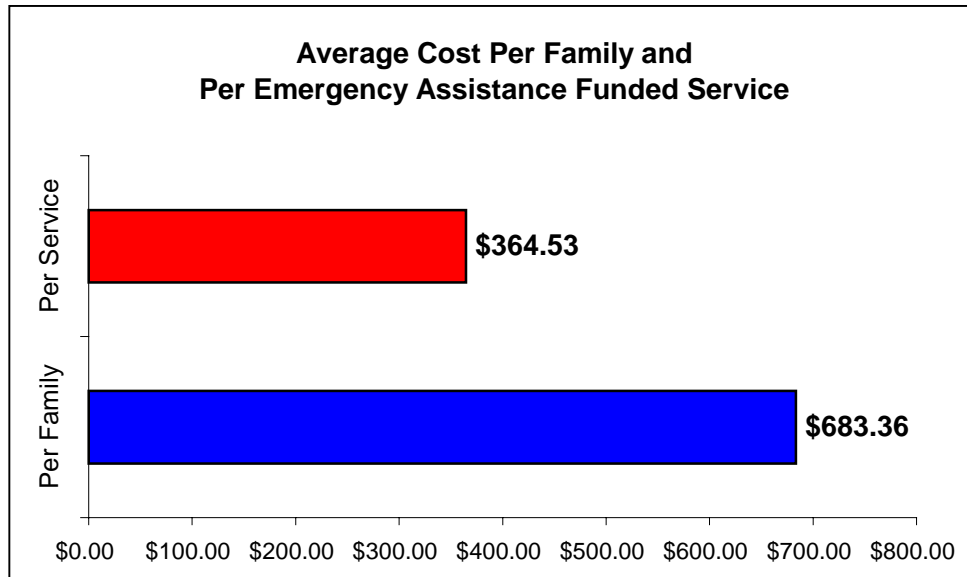
- educational services,
- housing,
- counseling, and
- health services.

The services provided differed by their category. Families provided Emergency Assistance money were more apt to receive housing, utilities and transportation services. Emergency Assistance case management Services were most often related to financial management or employment. Families who received Assessment and Referral services were more apt to receive educational, health and counseling services. The chart below illustrates these differences:

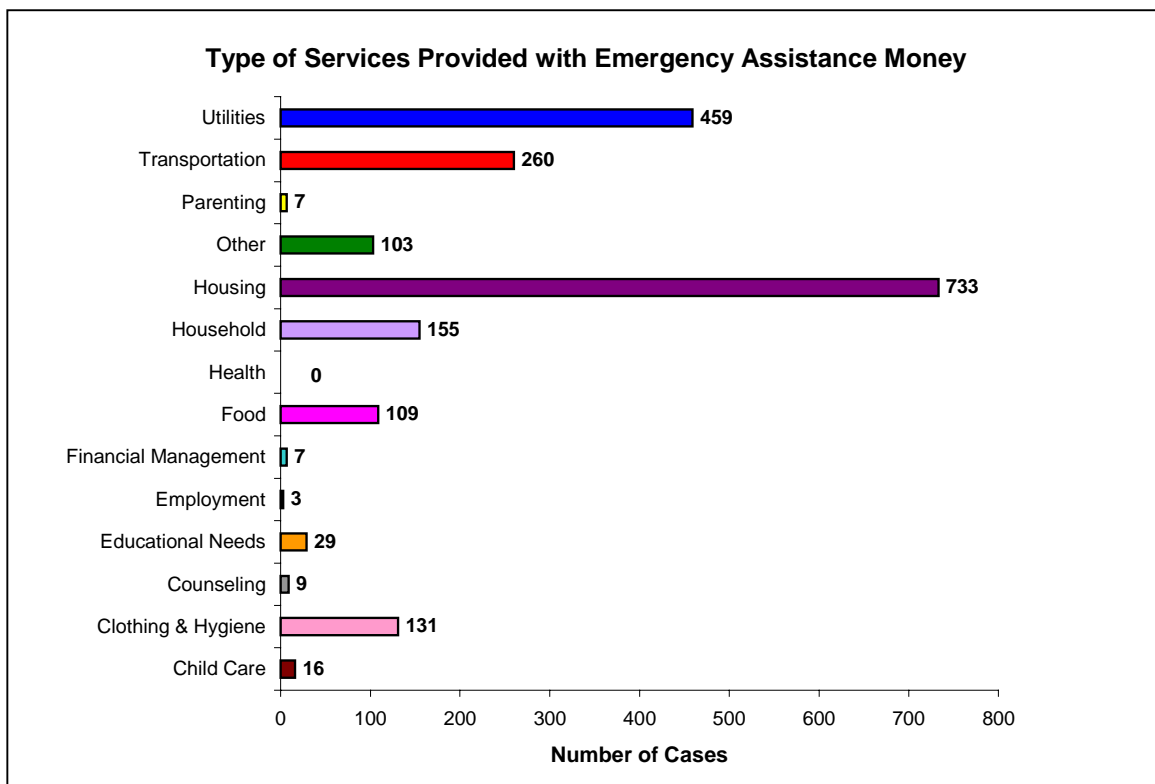


Cost of Services to Families

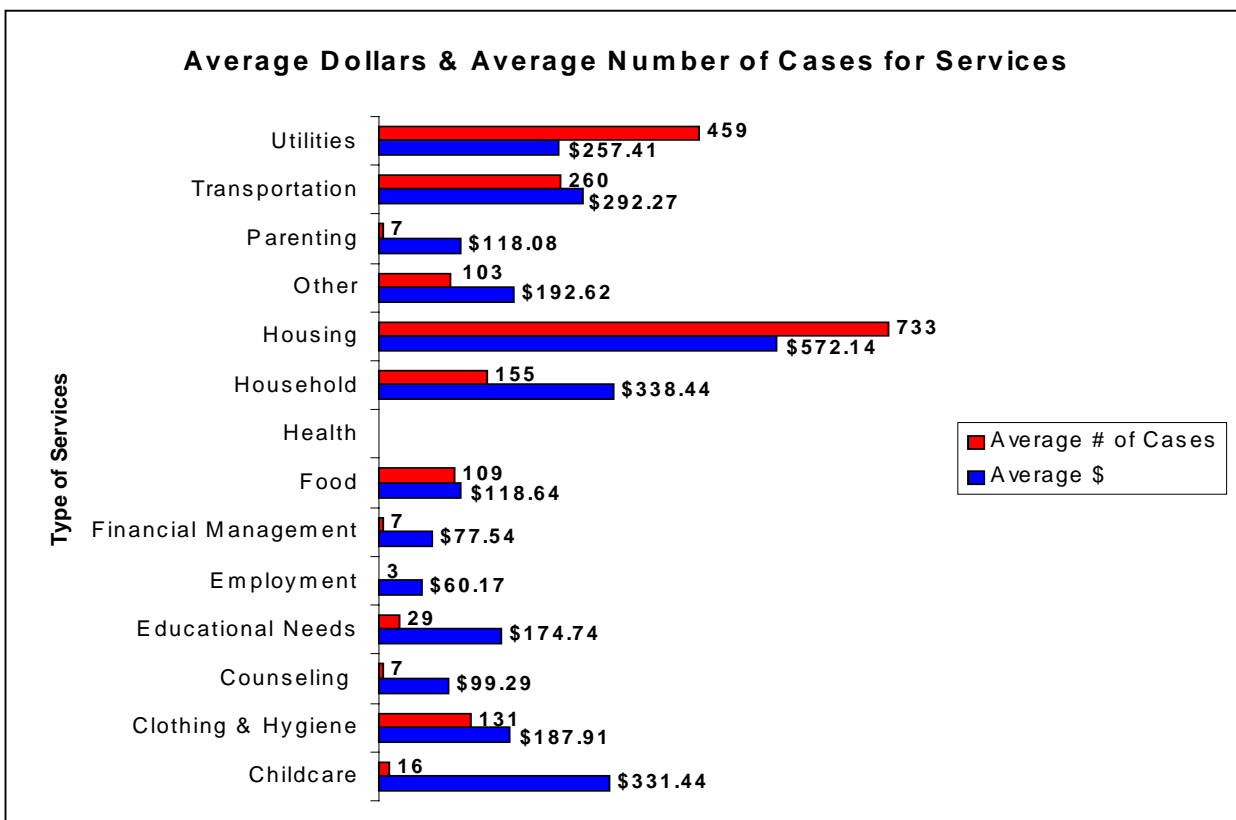
There were 1,077 families provided with Emergency Service dollars during the school year. The average amount per family was \$683.36. The amount of dollars per family ranged from \$50 to \$5,122.



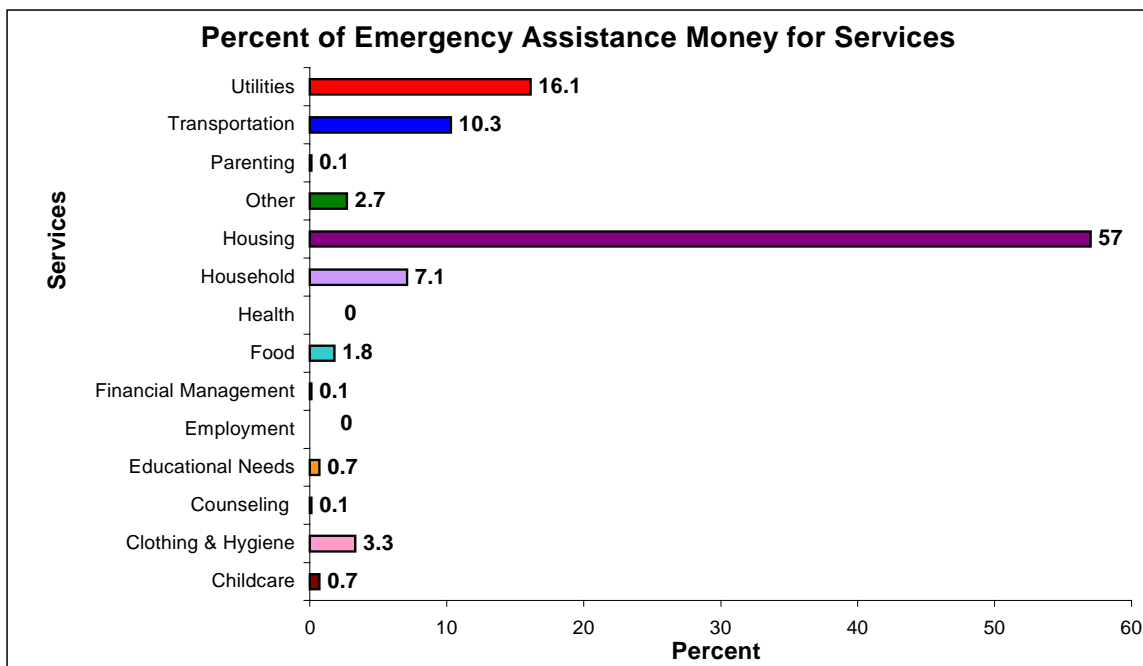
The following chart shows the most commonly funded services for families:



As for the costs of individual services, housing had the highest average cost per service with \$572.

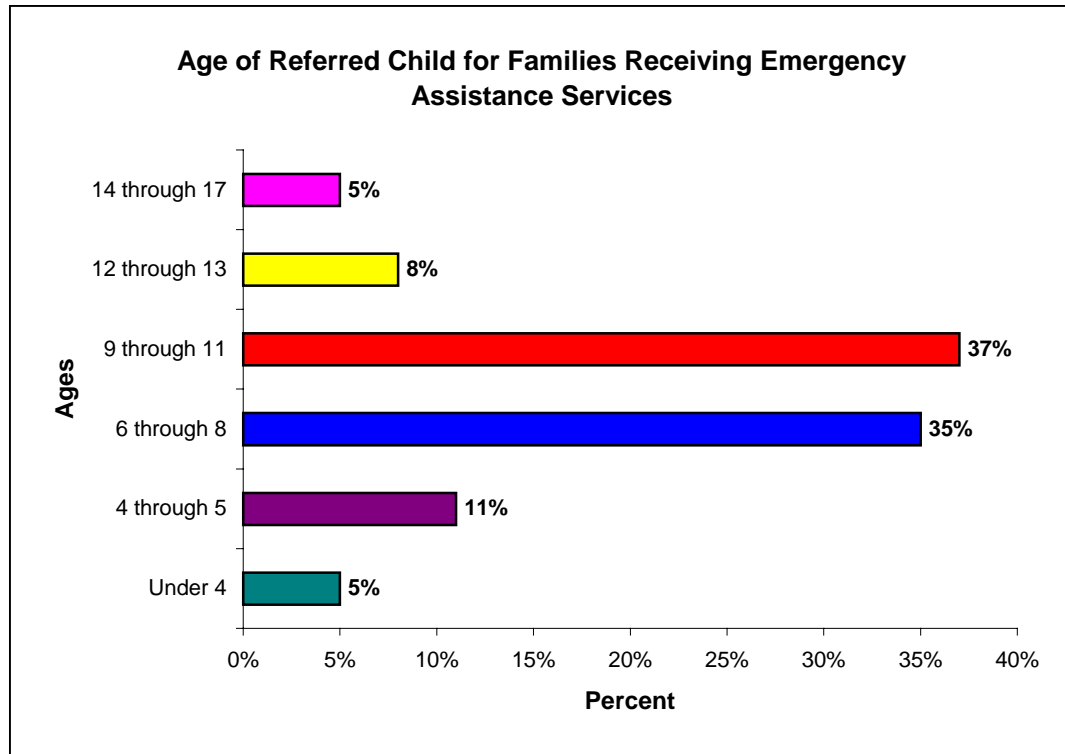


Housing also had the highest percentage of monies spent for services out of the total spent:

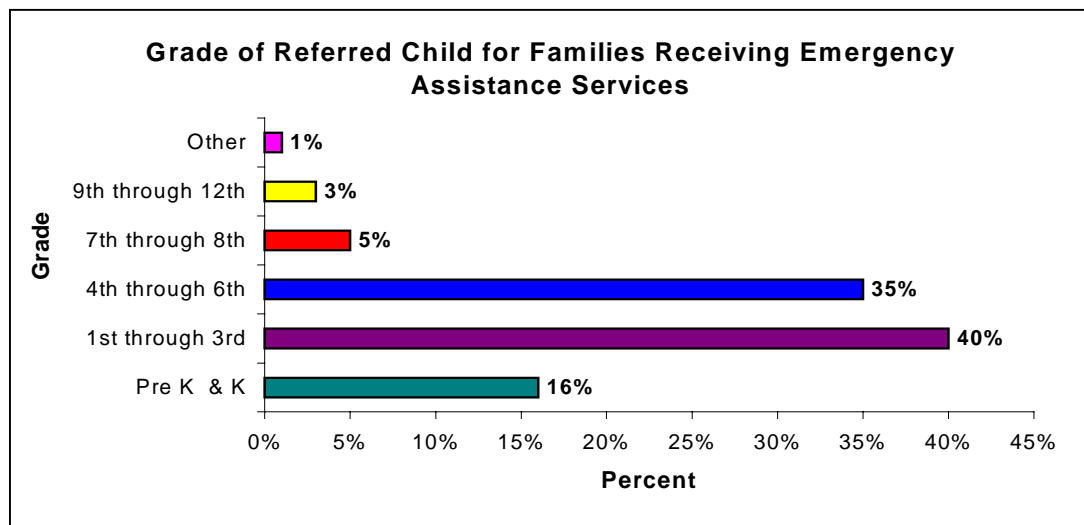


Characteristics of Referred Children

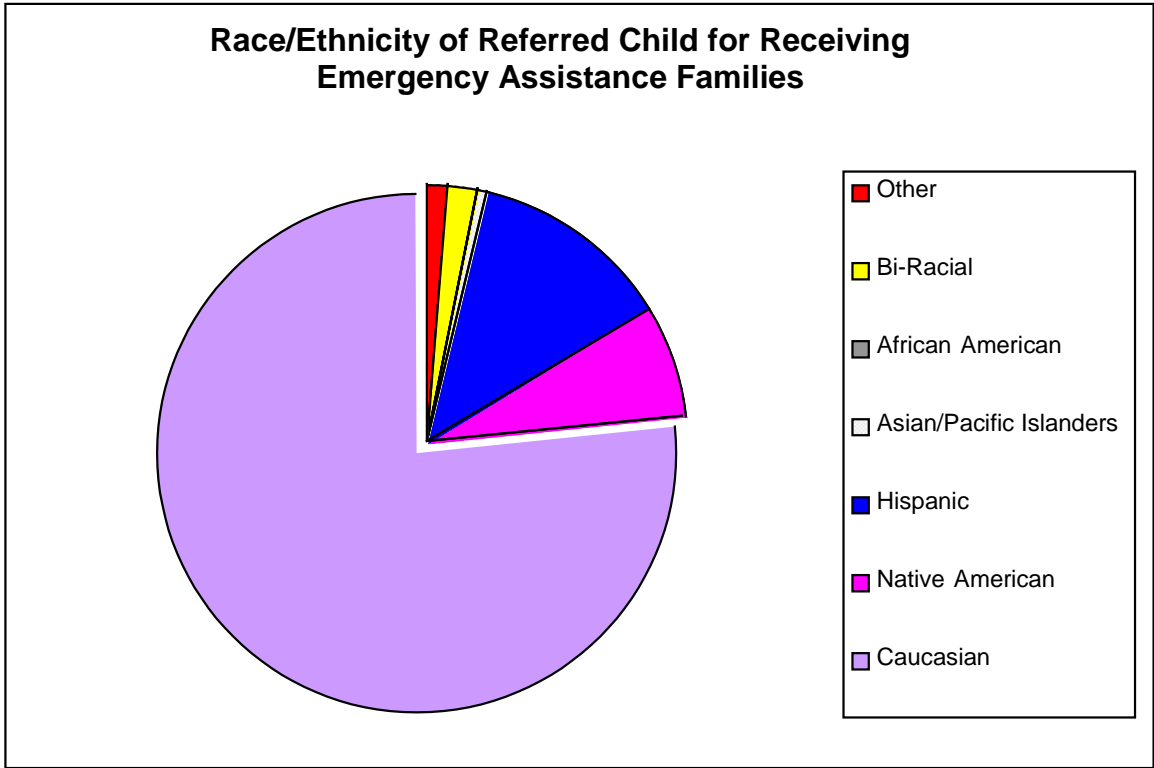
Information is presented only for the children provided with Emergency Services. The majority of the children were between the ages of 6 and 11 years.



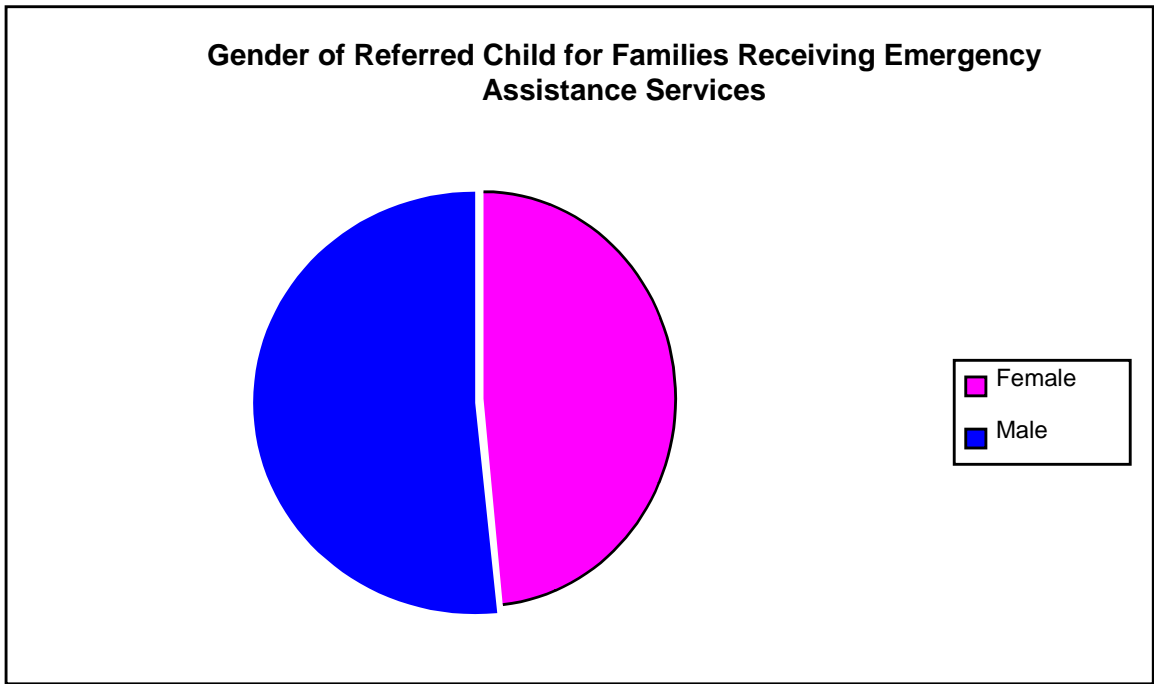
Most of the children attended elementary school.



The project served children from all ethnic groups. Three-fourths of the children were White. The largest minority group was Hispanics, with 15% of the children. Native American children comprised 5% of the sample.

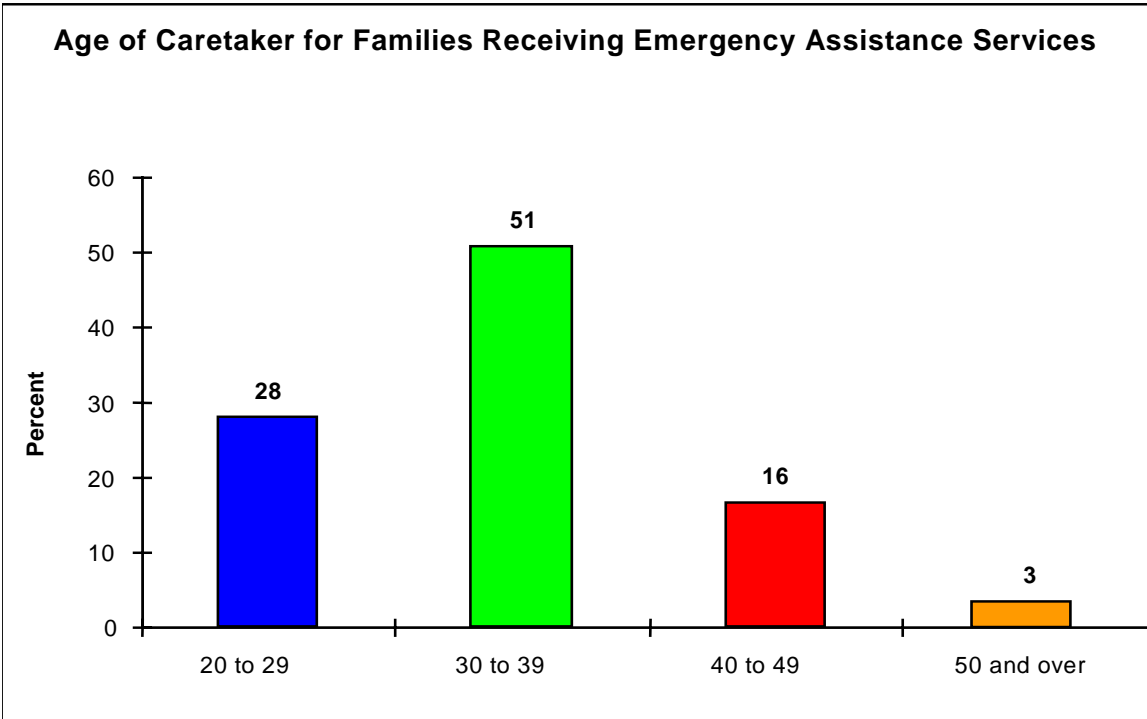


The project served slightly more boys than girls.

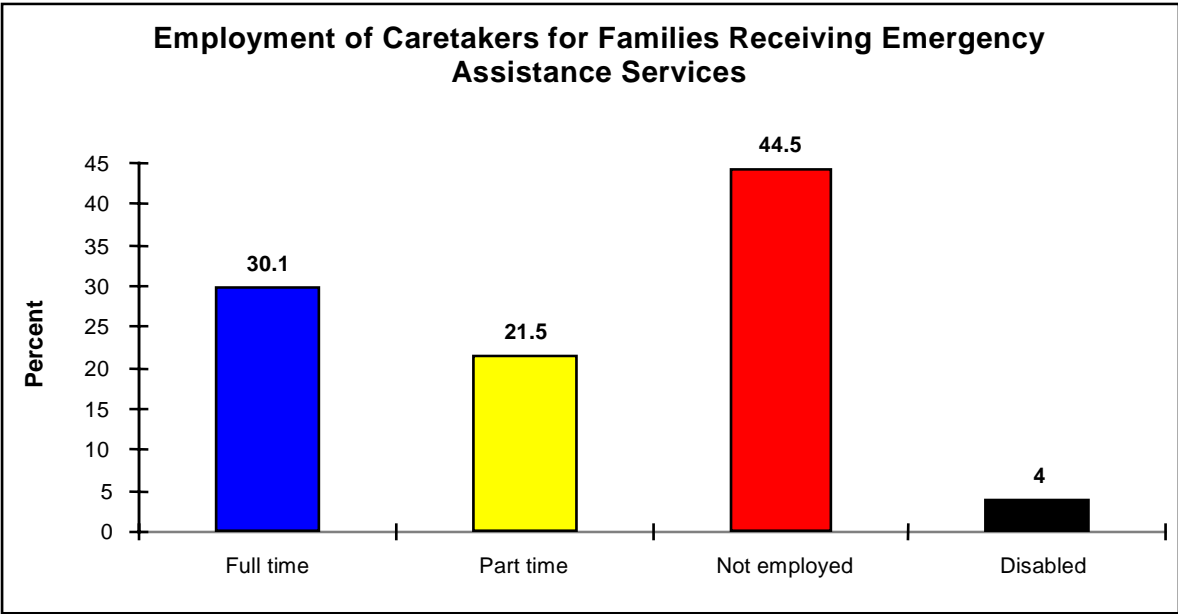


Characteristics of the Caretakers

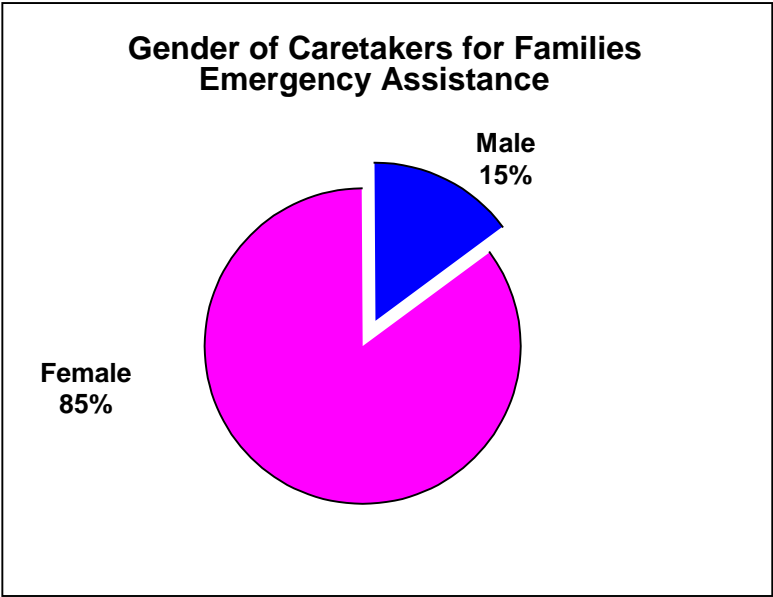
Information on the primary caretakers is provided for Emergency Assistance cases only. Just over one-half of the caretakers were between the age of 30 and 40.



Thirty percent of the caretakers were employed full time and 22 % had part time jobs. Forty-five percent were not employed.

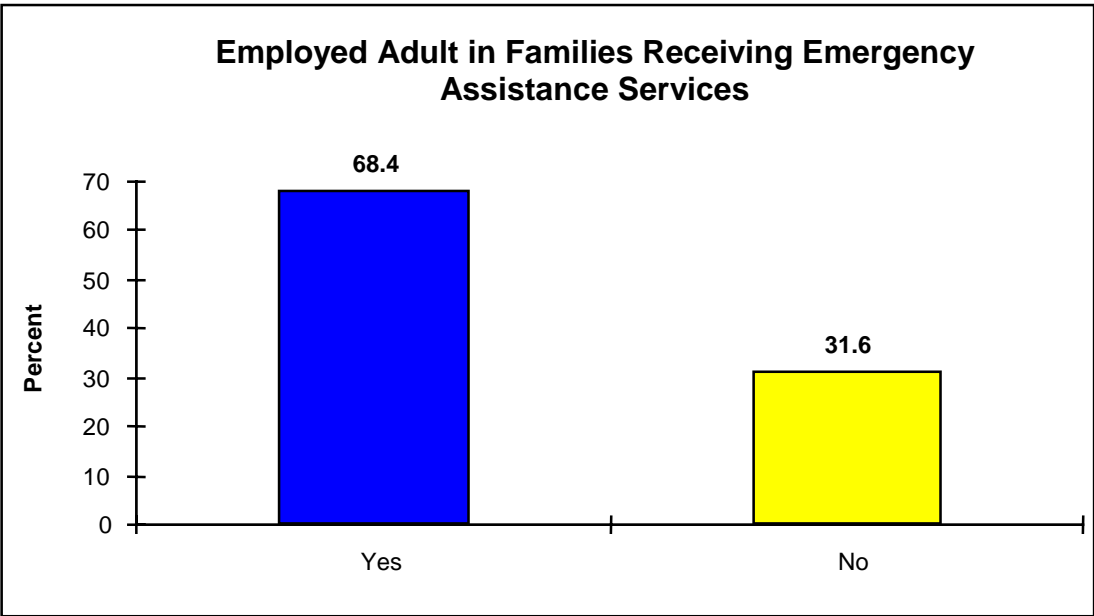


Eighty-five percent of the caretakers were female.

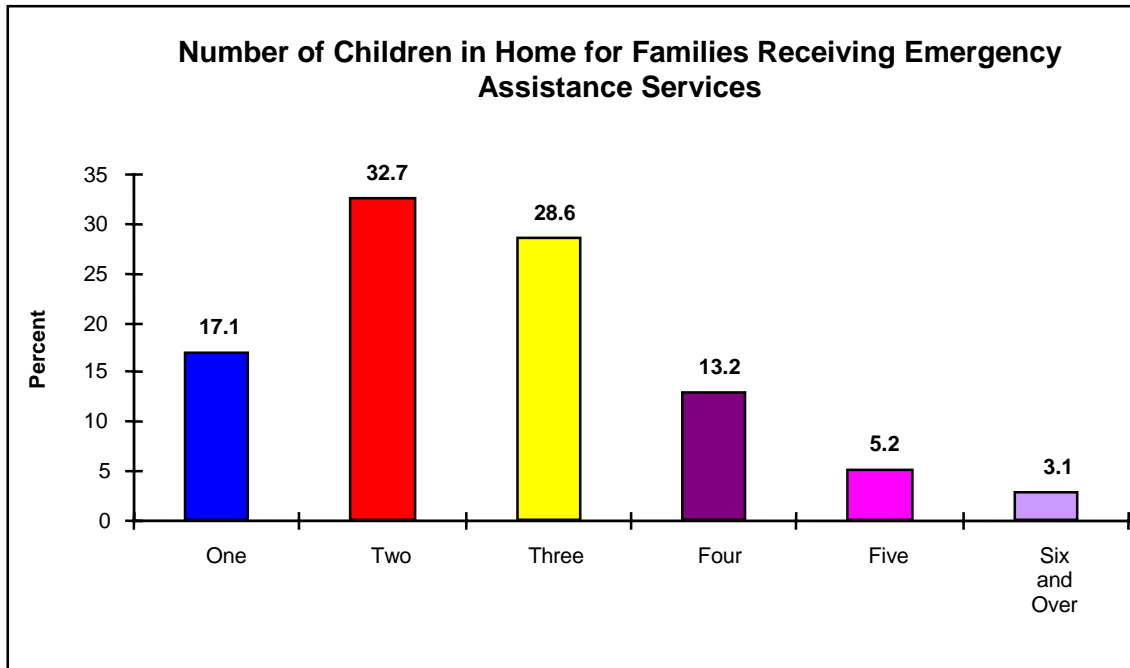


Characteristics of Referred Families

Information on the referred families is presented for the Emergency Assistance cases only. Over two-thirds of the families who received Emergency Assistance services had an adult who was employed.

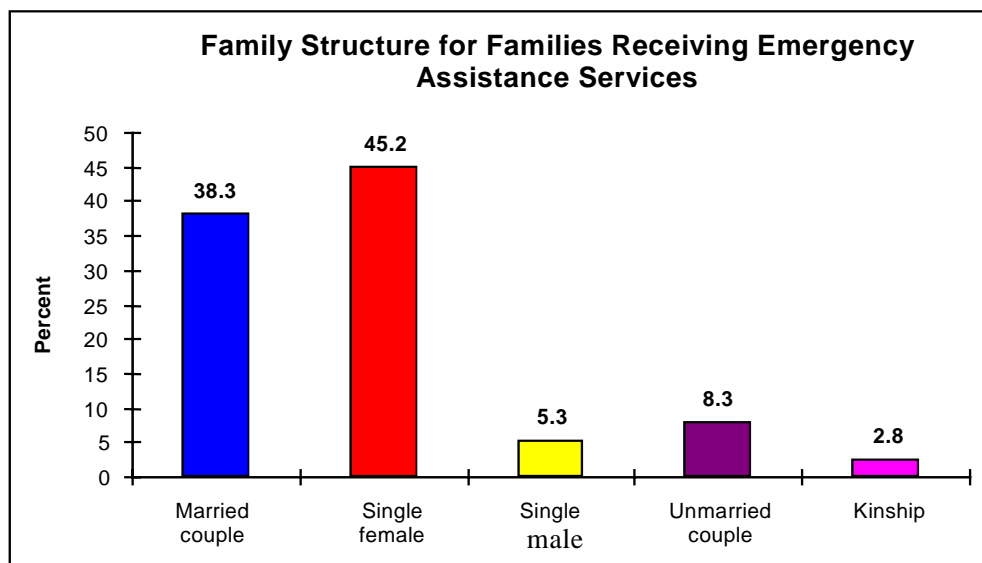


The average number of children in the families was 2.4 for the Assessment and Referral group and 2.7 for those families receiving Emergency Assistance. Families provided with Emergency Assistance tended to have more children.

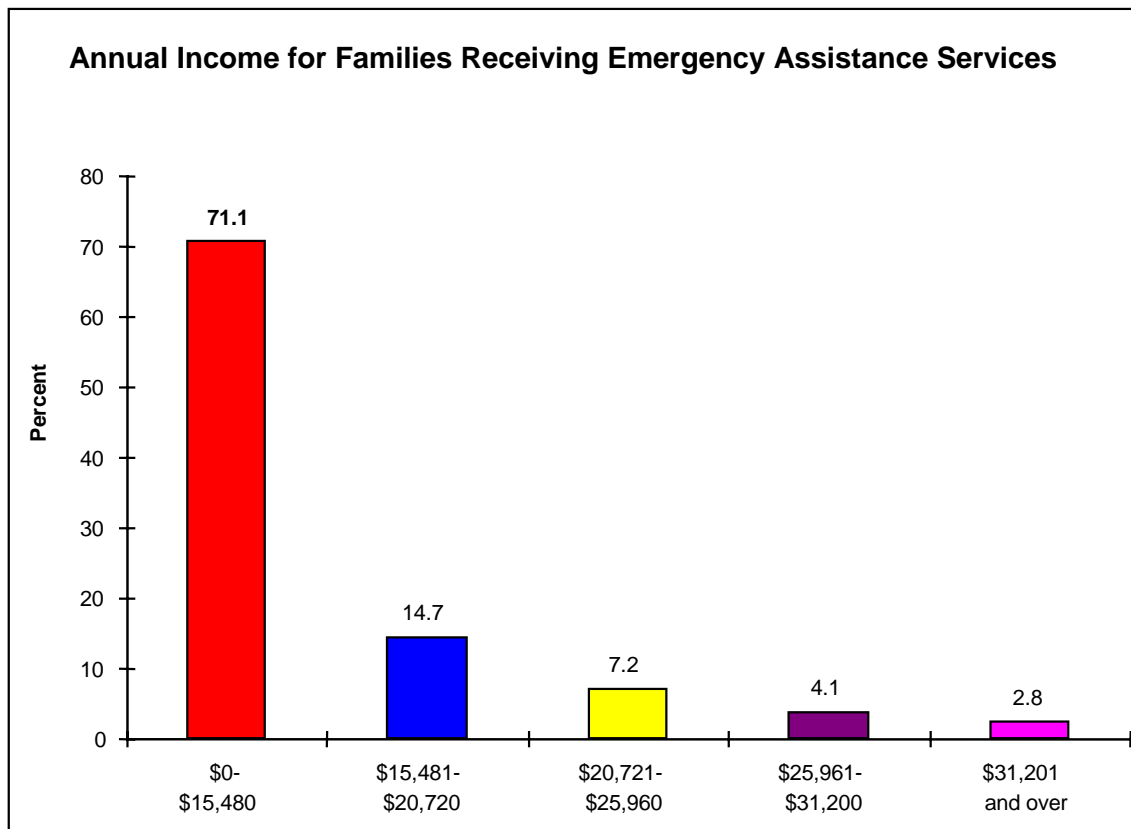


Married couples constituted the family structure of 44% of the families that were provided services. Single female head of the family was the next most frequent structure (40%). Single males family structures comprised 7%, and unmarried couples, 6% of the families served. Kinship care accounted for 3% of the family structures.

Families provided Emergency Assistance services more often had a single female family structure than did those who received the Assessment and Referral Services.



Over 70% of the families provided with Emergency Assistance Services had annual incomes less than \$15,480. This was the lowest annual income category provided on intake forms.



Other information concerning family income includes:

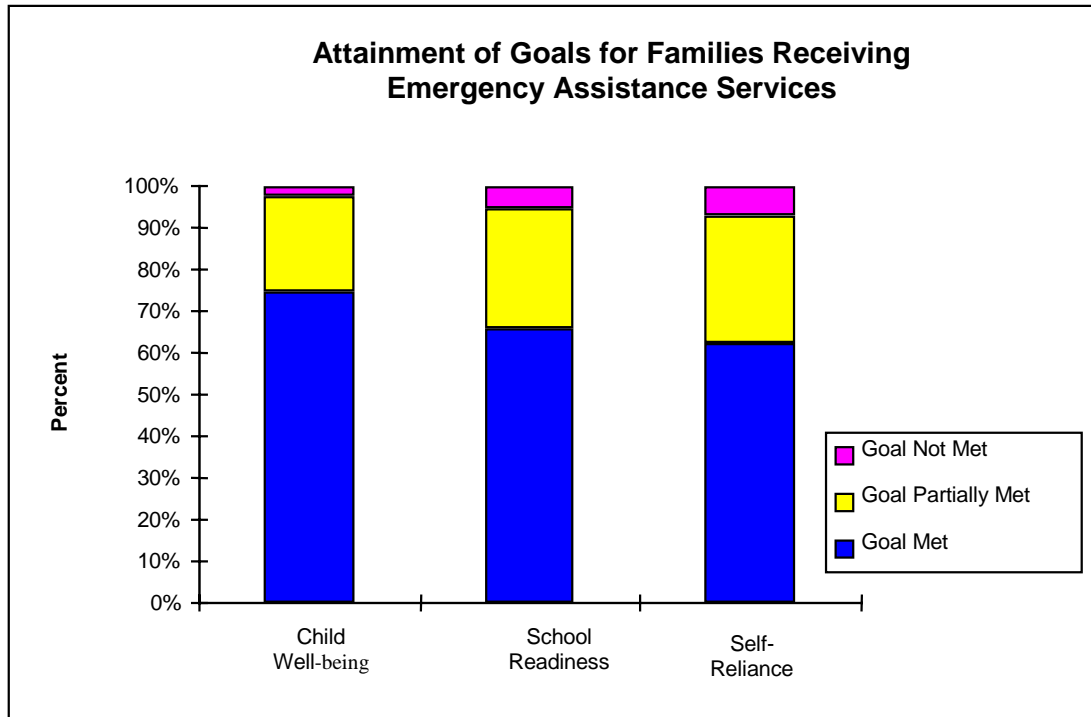
- The single female family and kinship family structures tended to have the lowest income;
- Married couples had the highest income levels;
- The program tended to serve many "working poor" families. Sixty-two percent of the families with either a caretaker or another adult in the family employed had incomes below \$15,480;
- 1.6% of the families had previously received TAFI services.

Outcome Measurements

CRW's were asked at the end of service to rate the degree to which individual families had made progress toward the three goals of the program: 1) Increasing child safety and well-being; 2) increasing child readiness to learn; and 3) increasing family self-reliance. CRW's were asked to rate each family as to whether each of the three program goals had been A) fully met; B) partially met; or C) not met. Not all goals applied to all families, since for some families one or more of the goal areas was not an area of need.

The rate of the different goals met by families, as judged by the CRW, is shown below. From the charts is can be seen that:

- 75% of the families receiving Emergency Assistance reached program goals in child safety and well-being;
- 66% of the families were rated as meeting the school readiness goals;
- The self-reliance goals were rated highly for almost 63% of the families.



Tables

Referrals

Disposition of Referrals (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

Referral Disposition	Number of Cases	Percent of Total 5,918 Cases
Emergency Assistance	1,246	21.2
Assess and Refer	3,382	57.4
Declined Services	983	16.7
Not Eligible for Services	280	4.8

Referral Disposition Reason (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

Referral Disposition Reason	Percent of Total 5,918 Cases
Declined N= 983	16.7
Information not available 14 families	
Family does not agree service need exists	3.2
Family does not want outside intervention	3.4
Family responded to crisis	2.0
Moving from area/unable to locate	3.2
Unknown	4.6
Not Eligible N= 280	4.8
Information not available = 4 families	
Current CP assessment	2.7
Citizenship legal status	.1
Family has resources	.3
Family has received Emergency Assistance within the last 12 months	1.5
TAFI sanctioned	.1

Referral Reasons (Unit of analysis = Referred reason)

Referral Reason	EA N=2,814	A & R N=6,185
Information not available = 0 cases	Percent	Percent
Academic	6.5	13.5
Attendance	4.7	7.1
Behavior	9.7	16.7
Finances	31.5	17.3
Housing	19.7	7.1
Health and Physical Concerns	12.9	17.7
Supervision/care issues	10.1	12.4
Other	4.9	8.2

Services

Service Category (Unit of analysis = Services)

Service Category	Number of Services	Percent
A & R	7,166	55.8
EA Services	3,603	28.1
EA Money *	2,073	16.1

* 54 services under the category of EA Money had \$0.00. These services are included in this analysis

Type of Service (Unit of analysis = Service)

Type of Service Information not available - 1 case	EA Services N=3,603 Percent	EA Money N=2,073 * Percent	A & R N=7,165 Percent
Child care	3.6	.8	3.5
Clothing and hygiene	7.0	6.5	8.7
Counseling	11.2	.4	13.4
Educational needs	14.4	1.5	17.9
Employment	7.1	.2	2.5
Financial management	15.0	.4	4.1
Food	7.9	5.4	6.7
Household	5.1	7.8	3.1
Housing	2.9	36.0	6.8
Health	8.7	0.0	12.2
Transportation	4.0	13.0	2.6
Utilities	3.7	22.4	4.0
Parenting	4.8	.5	4.0
Other	4.6	5.1	10.4

- 54 services under the category of EA Money had \$0.00. These services are included in this analysis

Service Dollars (Unit of analysis = Service)

Service Dollars	Description
	2,019 Services * Mean = \$364.53 per service

* 54 services under the category of EA Money had \$0.00. These services are not included in this analysis

Service Dollars (Unit of analysis = Families)

Service Category	Description
	1,077 families Mean: \$683.36 per family Range: \$30 to \$5,122

* 54 services under the category of EA Money had \$0.00. These services are included in this analysis.

Type of Service, Number of Services Provided and Percent of Total Funds Spent for that Type of Service (Unit of analysis = EA \$ families only)

Service Type Information not available - 1 case	Mean Service Amount	Number of services provided N=2,019	Percent of Total Funds Spent
Child care	331.44	16	.7
Clothing and hygiene	187.91	131	3.3
Counseling	99.29	7	.1
Educational needs	174.74	29	.7
Employment	60.17	3	.0
Financial management	77.54	7	.1
Food	118.64	109	1.8
Household	338.44	155	7.1
Housing	572.14	733	57.0
Health	.00	0	.0
Parenting	118.08	7	.1
Transportation	292.27	260	10.3
Utilities	257.41	459	16.1
Other	192.62	103	2.7

* 54 services under the category of EA Money had \$0.00. These services are not included in this analysis

Characteristics of the Referred Children

Age of Referred Child (Unit of analysis = Referred child)

Age Information not available - EA = 61 cases A & R = 482 cases	EA N=1,733 Percent	A & R N=3,741 Percent
Under 4	4.9	2.6
4 through 5	11.0	9.6
6 through 8	34.6	39.1
9 through 11	36.5	36.2
12 through 13	8.3	8.5
15 through 17	4.7	4.1

Grade Level of Referred Child (Unit of analysis = Referred child)

Grade Information not available - EA = 211 cases A & R = 319 cases	EA N=1,583 Percent	A & R N=3,910 Percent
Kindergarten and Pre-kindergarten	16.4	16.8
1st through 3rd	40.1	40.7
4th through 6th	35.4	32.9
7th through 8th	4.5	5.1
9th through 12th	2.7	2.9
Other	.9	1.6

Ethnicity of Referred Child (Unit of analysis = Referred child)

Ethnicity	E A	A & R
Information not available - EA = 67 cases A & R = 654 cases	N=1,727 Percent	N=3,569 Percent
African American	.2	.3
Asian/Pacific Islanders	.5	1.3
Hispanic	12.4	16.9
Native American	7.0	3.8
Caucasian	76.7	73.9
Bi-Racial	1.9	1.2
Other	1.3	2.6

Gender of Referred Child (Unit of analysis = Referred Child)

Gender	EA	A & R
Information not available - EA = 409 cases A & R = 389 cases	N=1,385 Percent	N=3,834 Percent
Female	48.3	44.5
Male	51.7	55.5

Characteristics of the Primary Caretaker EA Cases Only

Age of Primary Caretaker (Unit of analysis = Caretaker)

Age	EA
Information not available - 91 cases	N=1,147 Percent
20 through 29	28.2
30 through 39	51.2
40 through 49	16.8
50 and over	3.8

Gender of Caretaker (Unit of analysis = Caretaker)

Gender	EA
Information not available - 254 cases	N=984 Percent
Female	85.1
Male	14.9

Employment (Unit of analysis = Caretaker)

Employment Information not available - 87 cases	EA N=1,151 Percent
Full time	30.1
Part time	21.5
Not employed	44.5
Disabled	4.0

Characteristics of Referred Families**Employed Adult in Home for EA Cases**

Employed Adult in Home Information not available - 78 cases	EA N=1,160 Percent
Yes	68.4
No	31.6

Number of Children in the Family (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

Number of Children Information not available - EA cases – 12 A & R cases -177	EA N=1,234 Mean 2.7 children Percent	A & R N=3,205 Mean 2.4 children Percent
1	17.1	27.1
2	32.7	31.5
3	28.6	24.7
4	13.2	11.0
5	5.2	3.7
6 and over	3.1	1.9

Family Structure (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

Family Structure Information not available: EA = 17 families A & R = 133 families	EA N=1,239 Percent	A & R N=3,294 Percent
Married couple	38.3	46.4
Single female	45.2	37.4
Single male	5.3	6.6
Unmarried couple	8.3	6.3
Kinship	2.8	3.3

Annual Income for EA Families (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

Annual Income Information not available EA = 100 cases	EA N= 1,146 Percent
\$0-\$15,480	71.1
\$15,481-\$20,720	14.7
\$20,721-\$25,960	7.2
\$25,961-\$31,200	4.1
\$31,201 and over	2.8

Income by Family Structure EA Families (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

	Family Structure N=1,135 Missing = 111 cases				
Income	Kinship	Married Couple	Single Female	Single Male	Un-married Couple
\$0-\$15,480	84.4	52.0	86.0	66.1	73.9
\$15,481-\$20,720	3.1	22.9	8.7	14.5	15.2
\$20,721-\$25,960	6.3	12.7	3.5	4.8	5.4
\$25,961-\$31,200	0.0	7.2	1.4	8.1	4.3
\$31,201 and over	6.3	5.3	.4	6.5	11.1

Income by Employed Adult in Home for EA Families (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

Income N=1,124 Information not available = 114 cases	Employed Adult in Home	
	Yes Percent	No Percent
\$0-\$15,480	62.2	90.0
\$15,481-\$20,720	19.1	4.7
\$20,721-\$25,960	9.9	1.8
\$25,961-\$31,200	5.1	2.1
\$31,201 and over	3.6	1.5

Primary Caregiver Received TAFI Assistance for EA Families (Unit of analysis = Referred case)

TAFI Information not available = 0 cases	EA N=1,246 Percent
Yes	1.6
No	98.4

TAFI - During welfare reform, Aid to Dependent Children (AFDC) funding was replaced at the national level by Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Idaho's TANF program is known as Temporary Assistance for Families in Idaho. Welfare reform changed the approach from distributing entitlement benefits to focusing time limited assistance toward family reliance.

Program Goals

Program Goals - EA Cases

Ratings	Child Safety and Well-Being N=981	School Readiness N=899	Self-Reliance N=981
Goal Met	74.5	65.9	62.5
Goal Partially Met	23.0	28.8	30.6
Goal Not Met	2.4	5.3	6.9

Program Goals - A & R Cases

Ratings	Child Safety and Well-Being N=603	School Readiness N=553	Self-Reliance N=430
Goal Met	55.4	53.7	42.3
Goal Partially Met	37.0	37.1	43.5
Goal Not Met	7.6	9.2	14.2

Notes on Methods

Six relational files from the IDHW ACCESS databases used for the CRfF program provided the data for this report. The referral date appears only on the Referral database and served as the basis for cutting the other files. New matched files were created to obtain the data for this report. The files were as follows:

File	Number of cases
	7/1/99 - 6/30/00
Referral	5,918
Referral - Reason	11,230
Service	12,842
Person	18,077
Outcome	1,683

The analyses have been completed by selecting the unit of analysis which is appropriate for the original relational database. For example, for those variables in the Referral file, the unit of analysis is the referred case, and for the Service file, it is the service. The majority of the variables use the Referred case as the unit of analysis.